

March 15, 1983

LB 78, 229, 259

attorney reduces or drops or dismisses the charge. Sometime there are many charges and some are reduced in order to get a conviction on some of the more serious crimes but in any case the victim ought to know and they ought to be informed and I handed out a handout to you which is from Douglas Bereuter who is a member of the Congress of the United States who tells us of the proposed change in the federal law which is going to include the second half of the LB 78 which is the presentence reports by the victim or what we call the victim impact statement and there is a handwritten note that says, "This is indeed passed into law in the federal law and signed by President Reagan in October." So we do have this in federal law and we have this in other states and I think that it is only right that Nebraska be one of the forerunners to put in these two provisions for victim input and victim information. I could go on about the plight of victims. I think the cartoon that I handed out with that letter from Congressman Bereuter is a very graphic illustration. A crime happens, a victim is left, the police, justice, counsel, all of the social services available including defense, medical, psychological help goes to the offender and the victim is left saying, hey, what about me? I urge your support for LB 78 as amended. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the advancement of LB 78. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The bill is advanced. Before we move on Senator Cal Carsten has some guests in the North balcony, 6 members of the Women's Club from Syracuse, Nebraska. Mrs. Alvin Finke is the president. Will you please stand and be recognized? And Senator Wagner has 32 cowboys and cowgirls in the South balcony. They are from Burwell High School, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Piper are their teachers. Would you please stand and be recognized. Invite us again out to your rodeo, will you, please? Do you have something to read in the record, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Miscellaneous Subjects whose chairman is Senator Hefner reports LB 229 advanced to General File with committee amendments attached and 259 to General File with committee amendments attached, both signed by Senator Hefner. I also have a report from the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee regarding confirmation hearings. (See pages 955-956 of the Legislative Journal.)

Constitutional Revision and Recreation reports LR 5 as indefinitely postponed. That is signed by Senator Labeledz as Chair.